

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace, without prejudice, all previous versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-29 (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system comprising a host water treatment apparatus and a separable water treatment component, said component being useable in the host apparatus, wherein the water treatment component has an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus; and means for sanitizing and/or cleaning one or more parts of the host apparatus, the means for sanitizing being either part of the separable water treatment component or being a separate sanitizing component that is adapted to be incorporated into the apparatus in place of the separable water treatment component.

31. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the co-operation between the water treatment component and the host apparatus is either one-way or two-way.

32. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the component circuit and the host circuit communicate via one or more of the following transmittable waveforms: radio, infrared, optical and magnetic.

33. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the component circuit and the host circuit communicate by physical electrical contact.

34. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein co-operation of the component circuit and the host circuit is only possible when the water treatment component is conjoined with the host apparatus.

35. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the component circuit and/or the host circuit includes a memory capacity.

36. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein each electronic circuit can read and/or interrogate the other electrical circuit.

37. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the electrical circuit in the host apparatus includes a central processor, and the electrical circuit in the water treatment component includes a data chip.

38. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the electronic circuit of the water treatment component provides an enablement signal to the electronic circuit of the host apparatus, and/or vice versa.

39. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 38, wherein the enablement signal includes means for the water treatment component or host apparatus to control the other part.

40. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the water treatment component and host inter-co-operate.

41. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the electronic circuit of the water treatment component includes at least a data tag.

42. (Previously Presented) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 41, wherein the presence of the data tag is identified by the electronic circuit of the host apparatus.

43. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system ~~as claimed in claim 30~~ comprising a host water treatment apparatus and a separable water treatment component, the component being useable in the host apparatus, wherein the component has an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus, wherein lack of co-operation between the electronic circuit of the component and the electronic circuit of the host

apparatus indicates that the component is incorrectly ~~fitment~~ fitted to and/or installed in installation of the component with the host apparatus.

44. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein lack of co-operation between the electronic circuit of the water treatment component and the electronic circuit of the unit identifies incorrect operation of the water treatment component and/or the host apparatus.

45. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein information in the water treatment component is accessed from the component and displayed by the host apparatus.

46. (Currently Amended) A water treatment system as claimed in claim 30, wherein information that is communicated between the electronic circuits of the water treatment component and the host apparatus is validation information, production information and/or manufacturing information.

47. (Currently Amended) A host water treatment apparatus useable with a water treatment component to provide a water treatment system, said host apparatus having an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the component to monitor the status of the component attached to the apparatus, the electronic circuit of the water treatment apparatus providing an indication on a display of an incorrect installation of a component based on a lack communication between the electronic circuit of the water treatment apparatus and the electronic circuit of the component.

48. (Currently Amended) A separable treatment component useable with a host water treatment apparatus, said component having an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus, the component comprising a cartridge containing ion exchange resin.

49. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the component is a water treatment component adapted to provide a water treatment system in co-operation with the host apparatus.

50. (Currently Amended). A separable treatment component ~~as claimed in claim 48~~ useable with a host water treatment apparatus, said component having an electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with an electronic circuit in the host apparatus, wherein the component is adapted to sanitize and/or clean one or more parts of the host apparatus.

51. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the electronic circuit of the component is integral with the component.

52. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 51, wherein the electronic circuit is embedded into or mounted onto the component.

53. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the electronic circuit of the component includes a database having characterising data relating to the component.

54. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the data of the component electronic circuit is encrypted.

55. (Previously Presented) A treatment component as claimed in claim 48, wherein the component is a consumable replaceable unit.

56. Cancelled